

UCSC Graduate Growth December 2007

UCSC's graduate programs reflect the campus' long-standing commitment to fostering innovative, interdisciplinary research and teaching. We view our graduate mission as closely connected with our unique location in the marine, coastal, forest, and agricultural ecosystems of the region and among the diverse communities of the Silicon Valley, Monterey Bay, and Pajaro Valley areas. With these communities, we share a strong commitment to environmental awareness, social justice, entrepreneurial creativity, and technological innovation. We seek to be a place of educational opportunity for our constituencies at all levels, including at the advanced graduate and professional levels. UCSC will play a key role in training experts in wide range of academic, professional, and business-related fields that are vital to the economic and social interests of the State of California.

Graduate programs at UCSC will continue to evolve in cutting-edge fields across the disciplines, resulting in (estimated) graduate growth of 1,800 in State supported programs and an additional 1,000 in part-time self supporting programs by 2020. While some existing, individual programs will grow to maturity, other new programs will be intensively developed.

The UCSC campus academic plan explicitly identifies six multi- and interdisciplinary thematic foci shared by the academic divisions of the campus. Together, these themes define our broad aims in graduate education: to train students capable of producing new knowledge and creatively innovating in a technologically, linguistically, and culturally diverse world. Our graduate programs have been intellectually shaped by our campus's historical commitment to fostering diversity in our curricula, our research, and our faculty and student bodies. The themes reflect that history and respond to the changing demographics of California, while integrating studies of new technologies of communication (textual, digital, visual), up-to-date studies of critical global issues, and cutting-edge techno-scientific research that promises to change our view of human life and our natural environment. These themes are:

Advanced Technology and Society
Communication and Visual Media
Environment and Planetary Health
Human Health Studies
Identity and Heritage Studies
Transnationalism and Globalization

We aim for especially intensive graduate growth in programs that work at the intersection of one or more of these themes.

In the Humanities and Social Sciences, our programs focus on research areas of fundamental social and professional importance to the State of California: responding to the management challenges of the culturally, ethnically and spatially diverse globalized

21st century workforce; understanding emerging forms of literacy in a changing cultural and technological environment; responding to the social and cultural challenges of globalization; informing 21st-century public policy; and defining the theory and practice of human rights in a rapidly evolving international arena. Several programs also share a focus on the economically and socially crucial problem of sustainability across all human and natural systems.

In the Arts, we are developing strengths in digital arts and emergent media, interdisciplinary visual studies, and the study of performance in a wide range of everyday and artistic contexts. Our programs in the arts are poised to augment the state's economically vital entertainment and media industries with new research and innovatively trained experts.

Our programs in the fields of Engineering and in the Physical and Biological Sciences emphasize research seeking quantitative solutions to key problems and challenges in the twenty-first century confluence of science, technology, and society. Areas in which we excel and which must be intensively expanded include: computing, biotechnology, biomedical science and engineering, the management of complex systems, and information technologies. In short, we seek to foster a combination of emergent scientific and technical fields, along with health-related disciplines, which all represent crucial areas in which UC will be essential in meeting the needs of the state of California.

A key factor in addressing these global needs at the regional, national and state level is to enhance the diversity for which UCSC has long been known. Our existing, emerging, and proposed graduate programs will continue that historic commitment to diversity in both people--students, staff and faculty-- and programs. As we expand the breadth of offerings on the campus, we will increase the diversity of our graduate students via several mechanisms. First, we believe that the fields in which we plan to grow will attract a diverse cadre of graduate students because of the range of scientific and societal problems that we are addressing. Secondly, we are building into our culture more than ever before the explicit processes to attract and include graduate students who are ethnically, culturally, geographically, and economically diverse.

Guided by leadership in both the administration and the Academic Senate, various faculty groups have put forward several strong proposals for developing professional schools. These proposed professional programs build upon the strengths and interests that have long been associated with our campus: those of (1) environmental stewardship and sustainability (with specific attention to regional approaches to problem solving and also to coastal zones), (2) social justice, health and education, and (3) technological innovations that serve science and society, including local business communities. These individual programs lend themselves to establishing a professional cluster spanning public policy, management and education (the latter extending from traditional K-12 to adult continuing education). In educating a range of groups within California, including the mainstream workforce and underrepresented minorities, we aim to produce the social scientists and humanists required to address the scientific/technological problems of a global, knowledge-based society. Moreover, in our planned programs, there is a strong

effort to integrate their development with parallel developments in "green" technology and "green" behavior (i.e., sustainability practices). Our campus is especially interested in taking advantage of community partnerships with schools and institutions throughout the region, from Silicon Valley (where we see possibilities for partnering in the arenas of engineering, arts, and information management) to Monterey (where there are possibilities in international research). Most of these programs will be self-supporting once they are launched.

We anticipate that anywhere from one to four of these professional schools will be put in place during the time frame of this enrollment projection, with a total anticipated enrollment of between 500 and 700 students in State supported programs, consisting of 85% as professional masters students and 15% as professional doctoral students. Up to an additional 1,000 students will be accommodated in part-time self-supporting programs for working professionals.

Of these proposed professional program, the proposal for a School of Management is in the most advanced stages of development. We envision a school that teaches how to manage and integrate our emerging worlds, helping California fulfill its potential as a 21st century knowledge economy. With Silicon Valley as its 'classroom,' the School will actively engage SV executives in teaching, developing new forms of integrated 'real-world' training and internships, and creating new public-private and interdisciplinary research collaborations to solve real problems in real time. Our estimates for professional students in the School of Management stem from careful market research and industry collaboration on the programmatic needs and the potential demand for a new school. We also anticipate that a UCSC School of Management will compliment other professional schools planned at UCSC, including those focusing upon Education, Environment, Public Health and Public Policy.